

Message Text

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TAGS: TU, CY, US

SUBJECT: ECEVIT'S BONN PRESS STATEMENT ON CYPRUS

DURING MAY 15 CALL ON EUR ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST, TURKISH
AMBASSADOR ESENBEL, LEFT COPY OF EXCERPTS FROM BULENT
ECEVIT'S PRESS CONFERENCE OF MAY 11 IN BONN. ESENBEL EM-
PHASIZED THAT THESE EXCERPTS WERE MADE IN RESPONSE TO
AMBASSADOR SPIERS' URGING, DURING A CONVERSATION WITH
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECRETARY GENERAL ELEKDAG, THAT
TURKEY MAKE CLEAR THAT ITS PROPOSALS ON CYPRUS WERE NEGOTI-
ABLE. ESENBEL TERMED THE ECEVIT STATEMENT RESPONSIVE TO
CRITICISM IN THE US CONGRESS AND THEREFORE TURKISH EMBASSY
WILL BE DISTRIBUTING THESE EXCERPTS WIDELY ON THE HILL.
TEXT FOLLOWS.

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BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

LAST BUT NOT LEAST I WOULD WANT TO REMARK BRIEFLY ON THE
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS OR NON-DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING CYPRUS
AND RELATIONS BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE.

WE USED TO SAY WHILE IN OPPOSITION THAT TURKEY AND THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS SHOULD NOT WAIT FOR THE LIFTING OF THE AMERICAN EMBARGO IN ORDER TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE FOR SPEEDING UP A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS QUESTION AND WE KEPT OUR

WORD AS SOON AS WE CAME TO GOVERNMENT AND ENCOURAGED THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS WHICH THEY ACCEPTED TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE AND COME OUT WITH CONCRETE PROPOSALS FOR A SOLUTION TO CYPRUS.

HOWEVER, IN SPITE OF THIS THE GREEK CYPRIOTS HAVE EVEN INCREASED THEIR INTRANSIGENCE WHICH SHOWS THAT NO MATTER HOW MUCH GOOD WILL THE TURKISH SIDE MAY SHOW A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION FOR CYPRUS CANNOT BE FOUND AS LONG AS THE EMBARGO, THE AMERICAN EMBARGO CONTINUE. BECAUSE THE GREEK CYPRIOTS SEEMS TO BE MORE CONCERNED, MORE ANXIOUS TO SEE TO IT THAT AMERICAN AND WESTERN PRESSURES OVER TURKEY CONTINUES THEY ARE MORE CONCERNED WITH THIS THAN REACHING A FEDERAL SOLUTION FOR CYPRUS. THEY SEEM TO HAVE AT THE BACK OF THEIR MINDS AND IN THEIR HEARTS THE DREAM OF RETURNING TO THE STATUS QUO ANTE IN CYPRUS WHICH IS ONLY A DREAM.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE GAVE THEIR PROPOSALS TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, MR. WALDHEIM, IN HIS CAPACITY OF GOOD OFFICES THE GREEKS REACTED BY SAYING THAT THE TURKISH PROPOSALS COULD NOT EVEN BE CON-

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SIDERED AS A STARTING POINT FOR NEGOTIATIONS.

THEY CLAIMED FOR INSTANCE, THAT TURKS ARE CONSIDERING ONLY ONE PERCENT OF THE TERRITORY IN THEIR PROPOSALS AND THAT THEY ARE NOT ENVISAGING A REAL FEDERATION. HOWEVER, IT BECOMES OBVIOUS THAT SUCH CLAIMS ARE NOT FACTUAL BECAUSE IN EFFECT THE TURKS DID NOT INCLUDE ANY PERCENTAGES IN THEIR PROPOSALS REGARDING THE GEOGRAPHICAL ARRANGEMENTS, INSTEAD IN ORDER TO ADOPT A FLEXIBLE ATTITUDE, THEY INDICATED SIX AREAS IN THE REGION UNDER TURKISH CONTROL. SIX AREAS IN WHICH THEY WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE GEOGRAPHICAL ARRANGEMENTS. THE PERCENTAGE WOULD EMERGE AT THE END OF DISCUSSIONS ON THESE SIX AREAS. APART FROM THAT THEY HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO LET THE GREEKS HAVE ALL THE SECURITY ZONE WHICH IS COMPLETELY EMPTY NOW AND UNUSED EXCEPT FOR THE UNITED NATIONS PATROLS, THEY ARE PREPARED TO LET THE GREEKS HAVE ALL THIS LAND WHICH ALONE CONSTITUTES ABOUT THREE PERCENT OF THE TERRITORY OF THE ISLAND.

THE TURKISH SIDE AS A THIRD ITEM REGARDING THE GEOGRAPHICAL ARRANGEMENTS INDICATED THEIR WILLINGNESS TO LET GREEKS BE

SETTLED IN VAROSHA, WHICH MEANS THAT THE SETTLEMENT PROBLEM FOR AT LEAST 30,000 GREEKS PERHAPS MORE WOULD BE PROVIDED FOR IN SUCH A PART OF THE ISLAND WHOSE VALUE COULD NOT BE MEASURED BY PERCENTAGES BECAUSE THE EXISTING AND IMMEDIATELY USEFUL ECONOMIC POTENTIAL OF VAROSHA IS WORTH

HALF THE ISLAND.

APART FROM THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS INDICATED THAT, THEY LEAVE THE POLITICAL FRAMEWORK FOR VAROSHA OPEN TO NEGOTIATION.

AS TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS I AM SURE ANY SPECIALIST WHO WOULD STUDY THIS PROPOSALS WOULD ADMIT THAT THE TURKS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEAN REAL FEDERATION FROM THE BEGINNING AND IT WILL AT THE SAME TIME BE AN EVOLUTIONARY FEDERATION WHICH MEANS THAT IN TIME THE BI-ZONAL AND BI-COMMUNAL INDEPENDENT AND NON-ALIGNED FEDERAL STATE OF CYPRUS WHICH IS ENVISAGED IN THAT CONSTITUTION WILL EVOLVE INTO AN EVEN MORE CLOSELY KNIT POLITICAL STRUCTURE WITH TIME.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL DRAFT CONSTITUTION PREPARED BY THE TURKISH SIDE, ALSO ENVISAGES SEVERAL AREAS OF JOINT RESPONSIBILITY WHICH WOULD ENSURE THAT THE STATE STRUCTURE TO EMERGE WILL BE A FEDERAL ONE IN THE REAL SENSE OF THE WORD.

IT IS VERY UNFORTUNATE THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, MR. WALDHEIM, SHOULD TAKE THE GREEK REJECTION OF THESE PROPOSALS AS GRANTED BEFORE EVEN INVITING THEM TO THE NEGOTIATION TABLE. I DO NOT THINK THIS CAN BE CONSIDERED AS COMPATIBLE WITH THE FUNCTION OF GOOD OFFICES.

IN THE MEANTIME A HOPEFUL DIALOGUE BETWEEN MR. KARAMANLIS, THE PRIME MINISTER OF GREECE AND MYSELF WAS STARTED IN MARCH THIS YEAR, AGAIN AT OUR INITIATIVE AND WE WERE HOPING THAT WE WOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE UP THE PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY CONCERNING AEGEAN, THROUGH THIS DIALOGUE WHICH WE DECIDED SHOULD CONTINUE AND ALSO BE SUPPLEMENTED AT HIGH LEVEL TECHNICAL TALKS, AND THE FIRST MEETING FOR THESE HIGH LEVEL TECHNICAL TALKS WAS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN ANKARA ON THE 14TH OF APRIL. BUT AS SOON AS MR. CARTER, THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, APPROACHED THE CONGRESS ASKING THEM TO LIFT THE EMBARGO THEN THE ATHENS GOVERNMENT UNILATERALLY POSTPONED THIS MEETING INDEFINITELY.

I BELIEVE ALL THESE ARE SUFFICIENT TO SHOW THAT TO ALLOW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE CYPRUS PROBLEM IN THE PROBLEMS BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE TO BE LINKED TO TURCO-AMERICAN RELATIONS WOULD RENDER IT IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT FOR CYPRUS AND TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

END UNCLASSIFIED. VANCE

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